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HOUSE RESOLUTION 174
By Brooks

A RESOLUTION to recognize Ms. Cassie Ford and the members
of the Memphis Light, Gas and Water Law
Explorers Mock Trial Team.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those persons who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment, have achieved excellence in their academic careers; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cassie Ford and her fellow members of the Memphis Light, Gas and Water (MLGW) Law Explorers Mock Trial Team are one such exceptional group of students; and

WHEREAS, the team is composed of exemplary high school students who are fourteen years of age and older and who attend the Memphis City or Shelby County School System; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ford and the MLGW Law Explorers competed in the 2000 City High School Mock Trial Competition sponsored by the Memphis Bar Association and the Boy Scouts of America; the rigorous competition was held on January 28 – February 2, 2000 at the Shelby County Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, area attorneys volunteered to serve as judges for the acclaimed event as 26 teams gathered to share the spirit of competition; the MLGW Law Explorers were well represented well at the competition as five members were specially recognized; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during competition, and unyielding commitment of time and talent, Cassie Ford and the MLGW Law Explorers have achieved incredible success, and have joined the ranks of Tennessee's and our nation's elite students; and

WHEREAS, in her first year with the Law Explorers, Ms. Ford has proven herself to be a valued asset to the Mock Trial Team; and

WHEREAS, Cassie's display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for her future success; and

WHEREAS, the eight-member team began practicing at least once a week early in the season, and subsequently increased the frequency of their sessions to three to four days per week, in addition to dedicating countless hours to practice on weekends; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cynthia White serves with great probity as the team's advisor; she also advised the 1997 MLGW Law Explorers Team that captured first place honors at the National Competition in San Francisco, California; and

WHEREAS, Tim Flowers selflessly donated his time and expertise to serve as this year's dedicated coach for the competition in Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, in addition to Cassie Ford, the estimable MLGW Law Explorers Mock Trial Team includes: Tamara Young, April Williams, Mary McNeill, Zephaniah Holt, Michael Pollion, Bianca Jefferson, and Jeremy Peoples; and

WHEREAS, Cassie Ford's and the MLGW Law Explorers' noteworthy achievements are a tremendous source of pride for their parents, their school, and their community; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause to honor and congratulate these exemplary students on their many accomplishments; their dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby applaud and commend Ms. Cassie Ford and the members of the Memphis Light, Gas and Water Law

Explorers Mock Trial Team and wish each of the members of this select group all the best in what we are confident will be a successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.